

PORT & RESOURCE RECOVERY DEPARTMENT



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DEAN R. HAEN

DIRECTOR

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY HARBOR COMMISSION

A meeting was held on **Wednesday, April 23, 2014**
KI Convention Center/Hyatt on Main, 333 Main Street, Green Bay, WI

1) The meeting was officially called to order by Neil McKloskey at 8:37 am.

2) Roll Call:

Present: President Neil McKloskey
Vice-President Craig Dickman
Commissioner Bernie Erickson
Commissioner Bryan Hyska
Commissioner Tom Klimek
Commissioner Ron Antonneau (9:11 am)

Also Present: Dean Haen, Brown County P&RR
Mark Walter, Brown County P&RR
Paul Srubas, Green Bay Press-Gazette

Excused: Commissioner Hank Wallace

Not Excused: Commissioner Greg Flisram
Commissioner Hank Wallace
Commissioner John Hanitz

3) Approval/Modification – Meeting Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Craig Dickman and seconded by Tom Klimek. Unanimously approved.

4) Approval/Modification – February 10, 2014 Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of February 10, 2014 was made by Bernie Erickson and seconded by Neil McKloskey. Unanimously approved.

5) Resolution Accepting Ownership of Renard Island Causeway – Request for Approval

This resolution explains where Renard Island came from, the agreements set by the County, State and Federal Government, how the facility was used, the activities that have happened since

closure, the closure plan including the dollars documented, money that the Federal Government has put into the causeway, grants, exchanging tipping fees for services rendered and the amount of work the US Army Corps of Engineers has put into the Island. The resolution identifies the implications of the County taking ownership of the causeway. The department has determined what modifications it will take to make the causeway a permanent structure. The causeway was permitted by the Corps as a temporary structure. For the department to accept ownership as a permanent structure, the existing 84" round culvert will need to be removed and replaced with a larger box culvert for boats to navigate through. Fish sticks will be placed in the water with three spots on the south and east sides of the island. The stone removed from the box culvert will also be placed on the north end of the island for a rock reef. The total cost will be \$150,000. The department has pursued and received a Chapter 30 permit from the WDNR and is now pursuing a letter of permission from the Corps of Engineers. This resolution would establish that whatever activity happens with Renard Island, the costs will be reimbursed in the future.

A motion to approve the Resolution Accepting Ownership of Renard Island Causeway was made by Bernie Erickson and seconded by Bryan Hyska. Unanimously approved.

6) Chapter 30 Permit for Renard Island Causeway – Update

Chapter 30 permit for the Renard Island Causeway was issued with conditions for approval including installation of fish sticks and a rock reef.

7) Designated Fund Investment Strategy – Update

The department has long term solid waste plans for a South Landfill on the Resource Recovery side. Money has been put aside and staff has done some forecasting on future costs and available resources on operations of a facility. Schenk & Associates has helped with this along with Foth & Van Dyke Engineering. Schenk had determined that the return on investment at 2% gets the department to where we need to be. Solid Waste has \$20 million dollars invested long-term purposes. The County has long-term investments, but also has a large sum of dollars in liquid money market accounts. The County determines the interest paid, but averaging all investments. The County Treasurer and Finance Department have agreed to segregate out long-term solid waste and port funds and average the interest rate, excluding money market funds. As a result \$4.7M of the Port's long-term funds will see an improved interest rate. Long-term is defined as seven years and out.

8) Safety Study Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Seaway – Update

As part of the Marine Delivers public relations program across the Great Lakes, studies have been done including the Economic Impact Study of the Great Lakes and an Environmental Study of the Great Lakes and now a third study, *Safety Profile of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway System* was recently completed. A presentation on this study will be given at the Annual Port Symposium. This study quantifies the safety record of marine transportation.

9) 2014 Shipping Season - Update

The 2014 Shipping Season had the latest start of any year due to weather and ice. There have been six to seven ship cancellations so far. The first ship to arrive was April 18th and another one came in April 21st. There is still significant ice in the upper bay and currently there are three ice breakers up there to keep it open. There are projections of significant ice into May on Lake Superior and there are convoys of ships stuck at the Soo Locks. The up bound ships are trying to travel in groups of four to five across Lake Superior. Currently what would take ships three days to cross Lake Superior is taking 10-14 days. Some operators are waiting to get product by water as that is the only way they can get it, like limestone. Others have to change modes of transportation, like cement. Operators are having a hard time supplying their contracts which may cause a rise in prices for the products. The positive from the ice is lake levels will rise.

10) Great Lakes Policy Positions – Update

The American Great Lakes Ports Association has issued a 2014 Federal Policy Agenda which includes dredging, the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund, Marine Infrastructure Renewal, Short Sea shipping, Aquatic Nuisance Species/Ballast Water Regulations, Chicago Lock Closure, Seaway Navigation Season and the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

11) Director's Report – Update

A letter to the US Army Corps of Engineers was sent February 26, 2014 to show the 2013 MOA Requirements. This letter shows the dollars that were spent over the history of Bay Port.

Cleveland has started their liner service with Europe from Antwerp. Their first ship has just arrived. Cleveland is taking a lot of risk but if this works, things will change on the Great Lakes with new opportunities.

12) Audit of Bills – Request for Approval

A motion to approve the Bills was made by Tom Klimek and seconded by Bernie Erickson. Unanimously approved.

13) Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law

There will not be a Harbor Commission Meeting in May.

14) Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Ron Antonneau and seconded by Bernie Erickson. Unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:22 pm.